

Message Text

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44

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 OIC-04 IO-14 CAB-09 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00

PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SCA-01 JUSE-00 SCI-06 CEQ-02 EPA-04 NEA-14

DRC-01 /167 W

----- 121769

R 151257Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8447

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, UN, NO

SUBJECT: CIVAIR EXCHANGE OF VIEWS RE MAJOR ISSUES AT FORTHCOMING ICAO
ASSEMBLY

REF: (A) STATE 121894; (B) STATE 144041

1. EMBASSY DISCUSSED ISSUES IN STATE 121894 WITH WILLOCH,
DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION WHO WILL LEAD NORWEGIAN DELEGA-
TION TO ICAO ASSEMBLY, AND NILSEN, WHO IS IN CHARGE OF
AVIATION POLICY IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.

2. ON REVISION OF COMPOSITION OF PERMANENT ICAO COUNCIL,
WILLOCH SAID HE DOUBTED SENEGALESE PROPOSAL WOULD BE PUT
FORWARD AGAIN. HE CONSIDERED MORE LIKELY A PROPOSAL TO RE-
DISTRIBUTE THE SEATS ON EXISTING COUNCIL TO GIVE LDCS
MORE REPRESENTATION. HOWEVER, IF SENEGALESE PROPOSAL IS PUT
FORWARD NOWAY WOULD OPPOSE IT. IF SENEGALESE PROPOSAL
NONETHELESS ADOPTED, NORWAY WOULD PROBABLY THEN SUPPORT
BELGIAN PROPOSAL AS A "NICCESSARY ANSWER"

TO CHANGES IN COUNCIL ENVISAGED BY SENEGALESE. ON THE

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SENEGALESE PROPOSAL ITSELF, WILLOCH BELIEVES IT IS CON-

TRADICTORY TO THE ICAO CONVENTION AND THAT THE CONVENTION WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO BE CHANGED BEFORE SENEGALESE PROPOSAL COULD BE ADOPTED. IF SENEGALESE PROPOSAL IS NOT PUT FORWARD OR ADOPTED, NOWAY WILL JUDGE BELGIAN PROPOSAL ON ITS OWN MERITS AND HAS NO POSITION ON IT AS YET.

3. NORWAY DOES NOT SUPPORT A MANDATORY ICAO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM BELIEVES THAT ICAO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SHOULD BE FINANCED BY THE UNDP, AND OPPOSES PROLIFERATION OF MANDATORY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE SCHEMES FOR EACH U.N. SPECIALIZED AGENCY. WILLOCH BELIEVES IT IS DANGEROUS TO TAKE THE LINE THAT ICAO DOES NOT NEED ITS OWN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM BECAUSE UNDP FINANCING IS ADEQUATE. HE CONSIDERS UNDP FINANCING CAN SCARCELY BE CALLED ADEQUATE.

4. WILLOCH WOULD WELCOME ANY THOUGHTS U.S. MIGHT HAVE ON WAYS ICAO STUDIES AND ACTIONS ON AIR FARES AND RATES COULD BE CHANNLED INTO REALISTIC PROGRAMS. HE SHARES U.S. SKEPTICISM ABOUT ICAO ACTIVITY IN THIS AREA AND WOULD BE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN DETAILS OF WHAT DEPARTMENT HAS IN MIND WITH RESPECT TO "A MORE REALISTIC UNDERTAKING BY ICAO WHICH WOULD BE RESPONSIVE TO AN OVERALL UNDERSTANDING OF THIS MATTER" AS STATED IN PARAGRAPH 3 OF STATE 121894.

5. NORWAY IS IN COMPLETE ACCORD WITH U.S. POSITION ON HIJACKING.

6. NORWAY IS IN AGREEMENT WITH U.S. POSITION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUESTIONS. HOWEVER, WILLOCH NOTES THAT THE FAA HAS ISSUED A NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE MAKING WHICH PROVIDES FOR A UNILATERAL PROGRAM OF RETROFITS OF AIRCRAFT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL REASONS. NORWAY BELIEVES THAT PROGRAM OF ENVIRONMENTAL RETROFITS SHOULD BE AGREED ON A MULTILATERAL BASIS. SINCE ICAO COUNCIL HAS PUT QUESTION ON THE AGENDA OF THE ICAO COMMITTEE ON AIRCRAFT NOISE, HE HOPES U.S. WILL POSTPONE ANY UNILATERAL RETROFITS PROGRAM.

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7. WILLOCH AND NILSEN ASKED ABOUT U.S. POSITION ON MAKING ARABIC OFFICIAL ICAO LANGUAGE. WILLOCH WAS OPPOSED ON GROUNDS THAT THIS WOULD FURTHER COMPLICATE ICAO OPERATIONS, INCREASE EXPENSES, AND ESTABLISH UNFORTUNATE PRECEDENT. HE HOPED IT COULD BE VOTED DOWN OR AT LEAST POSTPONED UNTILL EXPERIENCE AND IMPLICATIONS OF USE OF ARABIC IN OTHER U.N. ORGANS COULD BE EXAMINED. NILSEN AGREED, BUT SAID IT WOULD BE POLITICALLY DIFFICULT FOR NORWAY TO

OPPOSE ARABS. FOREIGN MINISTRY WILL HAVE FINAL SAY BUT
HAS NO POSITION YET.

8. NORWAY WELCOMES PROPOSED CONSULTATIONS ON ICAO ASSEMBLY
SOMETIME BETWEEN JULY 22 AND JULY 31. STOCKHOLM IS
ACCEPTABLE SITE, AND WILLOCH AND POSSIBLY NILSEN WILL
ATTEND.

9. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING
EARLY AS POSSIBLE INFORMATION ON DATE OF CONSULTATIONS
IN STOCKHOLM AND, PRIOR TO CONSULTATIONS, FURTHER INFOR-
MATION ON (A) U.S. THOUGHTS ON ICAO STUDIES, (B) STATUS
OF FAA RETROFIT PROPOSAL AND (C) U.S. POSITION ON ACCEPT-
ANCE OF ARABIC AS AN OFFICIAL ICAO LANGUAGE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, NOISE POLLUTION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MEETINGS, AIR FARES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974OSLO003328
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740189-0204
From: OSLO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740749/aaaabpjn.tel
Line Count: 130
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) STATE 121894; (B) STATE 144041
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 MAY 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <27 MAR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVAIR EXCHANGE OF VIEWS RE MAJOR ISSUES AT FORTHCOMING ICAO ASSEMBLY
TAGS: ETRN, NO, UN, ICAO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005